

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014

Communications Portfolio

NBN Co Limited

Question No: 110

Program No. NBN Co

Hansard Ref: Page 41

Topic: FTTP and FTTN – Tasmania

Senator Conroy asked:

So about 85,000 in Tasmania will have FTTP and the roughly 115,000 remaining who happen to have a construction notice issued will get FTTN.

Mr Adcock: I would not say that; I would say that 85,000 is where we would have contract instructions issued. The majority of the balance will be the technologies deployed under the multi technology mix. I am happy to take it on notice and come back to you.

Senator CONROY: I am unsure why you are suddenly qualifying it.

Mr Adcock: Because there were certain parameters as we said in the announcement whereby, if it is well advanced, there would be a decision to be made.

Senator CONROY: I was not trying to trap you on the 85,000. Let me be clear: when I say 85,000, I am assuming they are confirmed FTTP, or are you indicating that not all of those 85,000 are at that threshold that you have indicated in your press release last week?

Mr Adcock: Those are the premises that have a contract instruction issued. They will be built—that is our belief at this point in time.

Senator CONROY: Thank you, but there are some others that are in design phase—is that what you are indicating?

Mr Adcock: That have had a contract instruction issued and were not sure. So some of those could continue.

Senator CONROY: . How many are in that category? Is it 5,000? 10,000?

Mr Adcock: I will take that on notice and come back to you.

Senator CONROY: Surely, there is somebody who can easily tell you this. This is what you do. According to your work schedule, this is 24/7 for you, Sundays included, Mr Adcock. You should know.

Mr Adcock: You are apprised of my work practices. There is a whole lot of planning going on at the moment and design, and when we looked at—

Senator CONROY: But you have issued design documents. How many design documents have you issued which have not led yet to construction instructions? I am talking specifically about Tasmania.

Mr Adcock: Without going into the details of the contracts, as you know, originally, the tier one contractors were doing the design. We have taken the design for Tasmania back in-house. We do not issue design instructions to the contractor anymore. We do the design in-house.

Senator CONROY: How many have you worked up?

Mr Adcock: I will take it on notice. I do not have the answer here in front of me.

Senator CONROY: So 85,000 are locked in? I am not trying to be pejorative; I think you were very emphatic before that 85,000 will be built—FTTP.

Mr Adcock: Yes.

Senator CONROY: There is some subsection you will take on notice. You are not sure yet of the remaining 15,000 that were originally contracted. I am happy for that number to fluctuate a little bit. You are in the process of design that could still be FTTP—

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Answer:

As at 20 November 2014:

- The total planned premises number under Fibre to the Premise (FTTP) was approximately 115,000.
- 84,921 premises in Tasmania had a contract instruction for build (CICA) issued for FTTP.
- Of the remainder, one Fibre Serving Area Module (FSAM) with approx. 1,200 has had a Telstra Commencement Notice issued (ie design completed).